

He sums up his conclusions thus:—

“ Nous connaissons actuellement tous les caractères extérieurs des *Térédines*. Une coquille de Taret, portant l'écusson d'une *Pholade*, est constamment soudée à l'extrémité d'un tube analogue à celui du Taret, mais dont l'extrémité est plus semblable à celle des *Gastrochènes*,” p. 122.

After reading M. Deshayes's observations with care, I am still of opinion that the real explanation of the genus is, that the tube of the *Teredina* has no affinity with the tubular sheath of the *Teredo*, as M. Deshayes continues to believe, and that it is only the fleshy siphons of the animal which have been lined with shelly matter by the process of fossilization; and I think this fact is further proved by the manner in which the cavity of the shell is lined with calcareous laminæ like the siphons, as figured in M. Deshayes's plate, tab. 4. f. 8, 9, and also by the form of the end of the tube figured in the same work, tab. 3. f. 17, 18.

*On the Variation of the Form of the Upper Mandible in a Rapacious Bird.* By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A.

Mr. J. H. Gurney has called my attention to the great variation in the form of the upper mandible of *Urubitinga uncinata*, as observable in some specimens which form part of his collection. I have seen the same sort of thing in the case of other *Accipitres*, but never carried to such an extent as in the present instance. In one of these birds (fig. 1) the lateral margins of the upper mandible are strongly festooned, and project far down over the edges of the lower. In a second specimen (fig. 2)—apparently of about

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



the same age, both being in immature plumage—the commissure is very nearly straight. In other examples there is merely a slight festoon. As the formation of the edges of the upper mandible is much in use as a generic character—rightly enough, I believe, and not generally liable to lead to error—the present abnormal variation seems worthy of notice.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* March 23, 1858.